

The American Observer

A free, virtuous, and enlightened people must know well the great principles and causes on which their happiness depends.—James Monroe

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Thanksgiving

By Walter E. Myer

AS we approach the Thanksgiving season again, it would be a good idea to think about the true meaning and purpose of this holiday. This does not mean that we should neglect our turkey dinners, football games, and all the rest. But if we are to be really thankful, November 26 should be more than a day of hearty eating and pleasure. It should also be a time to count our blessings.

We in America have many reasons to be thankful. Although the nations must still find the road to world peace, at least there is no fighting in Korea at the present time. We were not so fortunate last Thanksgiving. Hence, we may all give our thanks for this blessing.

We should also give thanks for our opportunities to obtain an education—to grow in wisdom and knowledge. Nowhere else in the world are so many young people receiving the benefits of a good education. We may best prove our appreciation by using the opportunities which are ours in the fullest measure. To do otherwise would be sheer folly as well as a display of gross ingratitude.

Naturally we should also be thankful for the many good things of life which have come our way. We should realize that in this world of suffering and turmoil, we are well situated. We can be thankful that we have good food and that we have warm clothes and fuel to meet the winter months. Millions and millions of people throughout the world are not this fortunate.

Let us also give thanks for the spirit of good will, freedom, and tolerance with which America is blessed. Of course, there are many differences among us. But we do not have to suffer from the extremes of intolerance and bitterness which make life terrifying and ugly in so many parts of the world.

We do not say all this in a boastful way. We know that America is not perfect. But we have reasons to believe that we are on the upward road. For all this we may well express our gratitude.



Walter E. Myer

Along with our Thanksgiving, we should resolve to be worthy of our good fortune. We should find out the best way of preserving it, and of extending it to people in all parts of the world.

Some people, even in our own country, have a much better life than do others. Those who are in the more favored positions should not take their good fortune for granted, but should show their gratitude by trying to bring about improvements for their fellow men who are not so well off. All of us, whatever our station in life, should resolve to work together for human betterment, here and everywhere.

The spirit of appreciation and these good resolutions should not be forgotten when Thanksgiving Day is past. They should influence our conduct every day of the year.



ARAB (LEFT) AND ISRAELI GUARDS at frontier were cordial to each other when this picture was taken. New enmity has developed, however, as a result of border fights. The UN is trying to restore peaceful relations.

Middle East Crisis

Dispute Between Israel and Arab Lands Weakens Vital Area.
Plans to Settle Troubles Are Presented at UN

THE Middle East has been a powder keg for a long time now. The recent troubles are just a flare-up of an old feud. Israel continues to have serious conflicts with her Arab neighbors. Her recent border clashes with Jordan have almost led to a full-fledged war. In addition, she is engaged in a bitter dispute with Syria over the waters of the River Jordan.

Our leaders, as well as those of other free nations, are deeply concerned over the unhappy state of affairs in the Middle East. This area is a vital one in several respects. So long as the present unstable situation continues to exist, it cannot help but threaten the peace of the world.

Of what does the Middle East consist? Why is the region so important? What lies behind the disturbances that are occurring there?

In general, the Middle East includes the lands of southwest Asia. These are the countries at the eastern end of the Mediterranean Sea, reaching up to the Soviet Union in the north and to Pakistan in the east. Egypt, in northeastern Africa, is also sometimes included in the Middle East.

Much of the region is made up of deserts and arid plateaus, though

there are fertile valleys here and there. Summers are generally long and hot, while winters are shorter and quite cool.

Today's disturbances stem from troubles between Israel and the Arab lands—particularly Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, and Egypt. These four nations all have a common boundary with Israel. Also on the Arab side, though not so directly concerned in the present crisis, are Iraq, Saudi Arabia, and Yemen. The seven Arab countries cover an area about half as big as the United States, and have about 40 million people.

Israel, the other party in the Middle Eastern crisis, is about the size of New Jersey. Its population is about 1,650,000. About 90 per cent of the people are Jews.

Geography is one key to the importance of the Middle East. If the Soviet Union should get control of this area—as she has taken control of parts of Europe and Asia outside her own boundaries—India would be sealed off by communist-controlled lands. The possibility of all Asia's falling into the communist orbit would be greatly increased.

(Continued on page 6)

Our Country's Foreign Trade

Question of How Much to Purchase from Other Nations
Will Face Congress

FROM time to time there arise in our national life important public problems that are debated for a while and then permanently settled. There are other issues that remain with us year after year and decade after decade. One of this second group is the problem of foreign commerce.

Ever since our federal government was first established, there have been arguments over the extent to which we should trade with other nations. Congress occasionally passes a law setting new tariff rates or establishing new trade policies. But such measures always leave some groups dissatisfied, and so the lawmakers are always being urged to keep tinkering with our foreign trade program.

Commerce with outside lands is shaping up as one of the major issues to be handled by Congress next year. Already it is being studied by a special commission of congressmen and other prominent citizens, and last month it formed the principal subject of a Presidential speech.

While visiting the seaport city of New Orleans, President Eisenhower spoke about our country's growing need for supplies from abroad, and about the vast quantities of goods that our farmers and manufacturers count on selling in foreign lands.

"Today," he told the people of New Orleans, "our whole economy turns and depends upon commerce . . . through such ports as this." He went on to give examples:

"The tin used in canning our food, . . . the manganese that goes into our American steel, the hemp for our ropes and hawsers—all these come, almost exclusively, from foreign markets."

Our dependence upon foreign materials, said Eisenhower, is certain to increase "as the tempo of our industry increases."

The President added that America's foreign purchases serve another vital purpose. They help friendly countries earn money with which to buy farm and factory goods from us.

During a recent crop year, said Eisenhower, we depended on foreign customers to purchase nearly 50 per cent of our wheat and almost 60 per cent of our rice. President Eisenhower also spoke about the large quantities of minerals and manufactured items that we sell abroad. In a single recent year, according to government figures, we exported more than 10 billion dollars' worth of factory products.

Within the next few months our lawmakers will take up the question of how much foreign trade we should have in the future.

Some years ago, Congress made all

(Continued on page 2)

Foreign Trade Issue

(Continued from page 1)

the decisions on how much trade we were to have with foreigners. Our tariff rates—taxes on goods shipped into the country—were rigidly specified by law. For every type of merchandise, Congress decided whether we should have a high tariff to discourage imports, or a low tariff to invite them.

In the 1930's, however, our lawmakers gave the President considerable power in this field. They authorized him to step up our foreign commerce by making trade agreements with other nations. Under this authority, the President or his representatives say to a foreign government: "We are willing to reduce the tariff on some of your major products if you will do the same for ours." Because of the give-and-take idea involved, the pacts thus made are known as "reciprocal trade agreements."

Since 1934, when the reciprocal agreements were first authorized, we have drawn up trade pacts with about 50 nations. The program under which these agreements are made is still in effect. On several occasions it has been about to expire, and has been renewed.

One of these occasions was last summer. President Eisenhower asked Congress to extend the program for one year, pending a thorough study of our foreign trade picture by the new administration. Congress, after a bitter fight, complied. Now, unless further action is taken, the President's authority to make new trade agreements is scheduled to end next June.

Meanwhile, the study which Eisenhower proposed is being conducted by a 17-member commission made up of five senators, five representatives, and seven Presidential appointees. Chairman of the group is Clarence Randall, well-known steel executive. His commission is supposed to report on the trade problem within two months after Congress meets in January.

There have always been numerous Americans who, for one reason or another, have favored extensive trade with other countries. Some have been merchants and farmers with goods to sell overseas, or shippers eager for cargoes. Others have felt that a flourishing trade would help cement our friendly relations abroad.

Meanwhile, various producers have always opposed heavy American imports—because of the fear that competition from abroad would hurt their business. Some labor leaders, though not all of them, have taken a similar

stand. These labor spokesmen have argued that if great quantities of foreign goods were offered for sale here, the competition might force American wages down to the lower levels that prevail in many overseas lands.

Usually the Republicans have favored higher tariffs—and less foreign trade—than have the Democrats. However, many people who want extensive commerce with other lands feel that even the Democrats—under Presidents Roosevelt and Truman—didn't go far enough in reducing our tariffs and other barriers.

What the Republicans will do next year remains to be seen. Their chief, President Eisenhower, thinks our country needs to carry on an active foreign trade, but he hasn't yet come forth with specific long-range recommendations.

In making their decision about this nation's foreign commerce, our lawmakers and administrative leaders will need to consider the following facts:

For a long time, we Americans have been selling more goods to foreign countries than they have been selling to us. In fact, our sales since 1919 have surpassed our purchases by a total of about 80 billion dollars. In effect, this 80-billion-dollar excess represented a gift from us to the outside world. We received no useful merchandise in return for it.

From 1946 through 1952, we sent 92 billion dollars' worth of goods abroad, and made purchases totaling only 58 billion. The difference, amounting to 34 billion dollars, was covered mostly by U. S. gifts and loans to foreign governments.

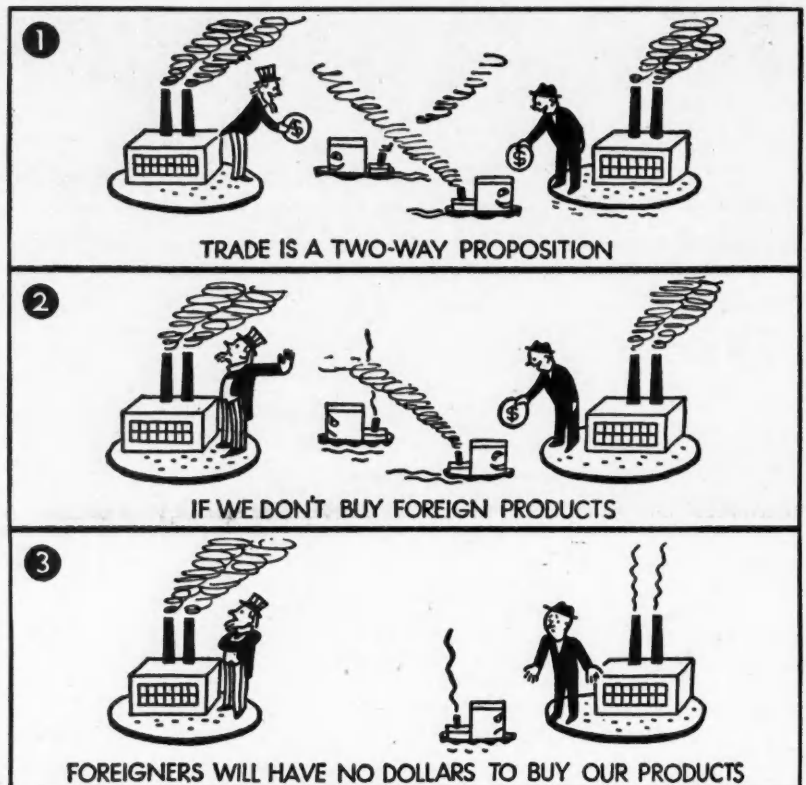
What Really Happened

In other words, the foreign countries couldn't earn enough—through outright sales in America—to pay for the U. S. goods they needed. So our government handed them well over 30 billion dollars in gifts and loans to make up the difference.

It is hard to predict whether this policy will be continued in the future. Actually, we have three possible courses from which to choose:

First, we can continue as we have been doing—sell more than we buy, and pay out large sums in aid to help our foreign customers make up the difference. Practically all Americans want to stop this policy as soon as possible, for it burdens us with a heavy tax load.

Our foreign friends aren't satisfied



FOREIGN TRADE works two ways. If we don't buy as many goods and services from other countries as we sell to them, they won't have enough dollars to pay for all their purchases from us.

with such an arrangement, either. Knowing that we won't be willing to continue handing them gifts indefinitely, they want to put their U. S. trade on a sounder basis. Nations abroad prefer to *earn* the money needed for their purchases in America. They ask for "trade, not aid."

Second, we can try a "go it alone" policy—buy little from abroad and stop our foreign aid programs. In this case, the outside countries would eventually have to cut their American purchases down to match their American sales. This wouldn't bother the groups in our country that are mainly interested in protection against foreign competition, but it would have bad effects on various other sections of the population.

It would hurt the American producers who count on selling large quantities of wheat, cotton, autos, trucks, and many other items abroad. Also, it would hurt the countries that need our supplies. It would probably force some to seek closer trade relations with the communist lands.

Third, we can reduce our trade barriers and increase our purchases abroad, so that foreign nations will be better able to earn the dollars needed for buying our products. This would help our overseas friends; it would reduce or possibly eliminate

the American taxpayer's foreign aid burden; and it would satisfy the American producer who depends on markets abroad. It would be bitterly opposed, however, by the groups who want to avoid foreign competition.

These latter groups, who favor high tariffs, state their case as follows:

"We must not force American producers and workmen into competition with foreigners who, in most cases, maintain living standards far lower than ours. In 1950, the average Italian industrial worker was earning about a fourth as much (in terms of food items that his wages would buy) as was the American industrial worker. If goods made by the Italian and other low-paid laborers abroad are allowed to flood U. S. markets, this competition will force American wages down toward the foreign level.

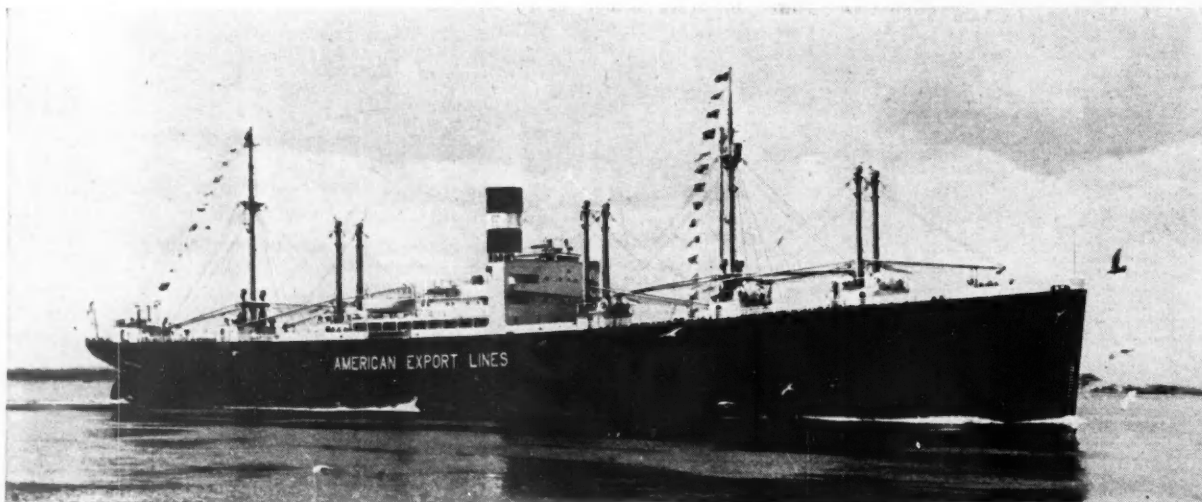
Unemployment

"Low trade barriers will harm various important American industries by permitting large quantities of cheap foreign goods to enter our markets and compete with our own products. American producers will have a harder time selling their goods here at home, and many American workers will be likely to lose their jobs.

"People who advocate an expansion of U. S. foreign trade sometimes try to give the impression that our country is about the only one which maintains any major trade barriers. This simply is not true. Complicated and annoying trade restrictions are to be found in many parts of the world. Some of our European allies, who blame our tariff barriers for their economic troubles, are among the worst offenders.

"Ever since World War II, we have been overly concerned with the welfare of foreign countries, and have paid too little attention to our own. There are nations which have accepted vast sums in American foreign aid, but which drag their feet when asked to help us on any project.

"In the words of U. S. Representative Daniel Reed of New York, most people who want to expand our foreign commerce are 'more interested in the



A CARGO SHIP of our merchant marine sets out to sea with American-made goods for other lands

U. S. MARITIME ADMINISTRATION

nerves and feeling of other countries than our own."

The Americans who seek to increase our trade with outside nations deny this last charge. They say:

"It is largely for our own benefit that we should buy and sell great quantities of goods across our borders. U. S. industries need foreign customers. For example, our sales of machinery to outside countries are estimated to provide jobs for nearly 300,000 American workers.

"It isn't true that competition from 'cheap foreign labor' will force American wages down. The fact is this: U. S. laborers are equipped with better machinery and techniques than are the workers in any other nation. The average American worker, therefore, can turn out far more goods than can the foreigner. As a result, he can earn more money *without placing a higher labor cost on the articles he produces*. The American worker can compete with the foreigner by out-producing him.

"Other countries are eager for American products. But if the foreigners are to buy from us, we must either accept their goods so as to *help them earn* the necessary money, or we must *give them* the money through foreign aid programs. Why give dollars away when we might be obtaining useful merchandise instead?

"Our tariff rates have been reduced since the early 1930's, but on many items they are still high. For instance we levy tariffs amounting to 90 per cent of the value on certain kinds of wool gloves, 55 per cent on cigarette lighters, and 40 per cent on surgical needles.

"Our tariff regulations and other import restrictions are so complicated



AND NOW THE STENOMASK. Secretaries can speak into the mask, which is soundproof, to record court proceedings and investigations without disturbing anyone. The machine at left records the secretary's words.

Science in the News

ISRAEL'S Dead Sea is appropriately named insofar as it contains no living creature, but it is very much alive in mineral resources, according to the National Geographic Society. Its mineral wealth is said to be commercially valued at more than a trillion dollars.

The bitter waters of the Dead Sea are too salty to sustain any form of life, but the Sea contains, among other things, probably two billion tons of potash, which is vital to fertilizers. In addition, the waters hold some 22 billion tons of magnesium chloride, used in textile and cement manufacture; 980 million tons of bromide, essential to medicine and photography; and 11 billion tons of sodium chloride, or common salt.

The Dead Sea is the earth's lowest spot and one of the hottest, and although it is only one fourth the size of Utah's Great Salt Lake, it has nearly double that lake's salt content. Because of the huge amount of salt, it is almost impossible to swim in the Dead Sea. People who try to do so are left covered with a dried crust of salt.

The Sea is 47 miles long and 10 miles wide. The southwestern portion touches Israeli territory, but three fourths of the shore lies in Jordan.

The American Red Cross has adopted two changes in its first-aid treatment. One is that frostbitten toes, fingers, ears or other parts of the body should be warmed quickly instead of thawing them gradually as has been taught in the past.

The second change is that tourniquets should be applied close to and above a wound and should not be released. Tourniquets used in first-aid treatment should be released only by a physician who is prepared to control the bleeding if it starts again.

Previously, the Red Cross had taught that tourniquets should be applied high on the arm or thigh and released every 15 minutes.

Technical photography is an important tool for research scientists and doctors. A new type of X-ray motion picture was used recently to prove that snakes crawl by wrinkling and unwrinkling their skins and not, as

always had been thought, by moving their ribs.

The new film was shown recently at the Biological Photographic Association's annual meeting. The film clearly showed that scales on the snake's skin help in climbing straight up a rough tree, but to climb up a smooth bamboo pole the reptiles use a winding and pulling motion.

The association heard that science soon will be benefiting from the introduction of three-dimensional photography. Also, it was reported that photographs taken with the aid of electronic microscopes will eventually give greater insight into such minute processes as the growth of blood cells.

A wind-up burglar alarm has been designed which will arouse a sleeping person with a penetrating ring and scare off a night prowler at the same time. It is a simple device that can be attached to doors or windows.

A short time ago, a reader said he hoped that a universal military training program would be adopted to make men ready to fight in case of trouble. I disagree with that view.

If we go back in our history a little, we are reminded that one of the main reasons our forebears came to this country was to get relief from excessive government controls over their lives. UMT would, in my opinion, be a step back to the days when governments had power to order people about without regard for their individual rights.

ROBERT KOCK,
Fayette, Missouri

We are badly unprepared for atomic attack if one should come. We know very little about the bomb, or how to behave if one should fall on our communities. I believe the federal government should send out detailed instructions to every citizen in the country on how to get ready for an attack, and what to do if an A-bomb is dropped.

LEWIS BERGREN, JR.,
Barrington, Illinois

Our school conducted a special United Nations program. One class put on a radio skit showing college students preparing a 1000-word essay on the UN. It brought out arguments for and against UN activities which helped us all gain a better understanding of the world body.

MARJORIE MONTVILLE,
Malone, New York

Your Vocabulary

In each sentence below, match the italicized word with the following word or phrase whose meaning is most nearly the same. Correct answers are to be found on page 8, column 4.

1. In *retrospect* (rēt'rō-spēkt) it seemed the right decision. (a) looking back (b) the emergency (c) the record book (d) view of the circumstances.

2. Most people will accept his decision with *approbation* (āp'rō-bā'shun). (a) reservations (b) approval (c) considerable doubt (d) glee.

3. His supporters feared he would be *incapacitated* (in'kā-pās'i-tāt-ēd) if he continued. (a) disabled (b) morally defeated (c) imprisoned (d) mentally tired.

4. Because of his *infirmity* (in-firm'i-ti) they questioned whether he could be depended upon. (a) treasonable actions (b) stupidity (c) bull-headedness (d) feebleness.

5. The teacher had an *obstreperous* (ōb-strēp'ēr-ūs) class on her hands. (a) unusually brilliant (b) slow (c) uncontrollably noisy (d) much larger than usual.

6. The Communists treated him like a *pariah* (pā-rī'uh). (a) king (b) outcast (c) oriental prince (d) political comrade.

7. She chided him for his *voracious* (vō-rā'shūs) appetite. (a) finicky (b) very greedy (c) complete lack of (d) famous.

Pupil comes from the Latin term *pupilla*, "a little doll." Perhaps in the days of the Romans the pupils sitting in classrooms reminded teachers of little dolls.

Our Readers Say—

I wonder how many high school students are acquainted with our student exchange programs. I spent some time in Germany as an exchange student under the American Field Service. It was an impressive experience for me in international understanding.

HUGH EVANS,
Sheboygan, Wisconsin

I feel that parents should exercise more discipline over their children than they do at present in an effort to curb crime among young people. I don't think parents should be as strict as they were some generations ago, but mothers and fathers should be firm with their children, and they should take an interest in young people's activities. A little time spent with youths today may save a lot of heartaches tomorrow.

NANCY DAVIS,
Lubbock, Texas

I don't agree with people who think discipline is the answer to juvenile delinquency. The first step toward solving this problem, it seems to me, is to provide teen-agers with opportunities for wholesome recreation. Young people's community centers should be set up. Teen-agers, under adult supervision, ought to be given the responsibility of running and maintaining these centers.

BARBARA TOLIN,
Hammond, Indiana

10 TOP U.S. EXPORTS

- 1 MACHINERY
- 2 GRAIN
- 3 MOTOR VEHICLES
- 4 COTTON
- 5 CHEMICALS
- 6 PETROLEUM PRODUCTS
- 7 IRON AND STEEL-MILL PRODUCTS
- 8 TEXTILE GOODS
- 9 AIRCRAFT
- 10 COAL

10 TOP U.S. IMPORTS

- 1 METALS AND ORES
- 2 COFFEE
- 3 PAPER AND WOOD PULP
- 4 PETROLEUM AND FUEL OIL
- 5 RUBBER
- 6 CANE SUGAR
- 7 WOOL
- 8 MACHINERY
- 9 CHEMICALS
- 10 LUMBER

U. S. TRADE. These were our 10 leading exports and imports (dollar value) during 1952.

and confusing that they discourage many foreign merchants from trying to sell goods in America.

"Foreigners cannot quite understand why the United States is so reluctant to admit increasing quantities of goods from the outside. Canadian Prime Minister Louis St. Laurent says this: 'The United States would seem to have little to fear from wholesale competition with the other nations of the free world.' To foreigners our economy appears strong enough that we should at least be willing to buy as much as we sell."

These are among the arguments that will be heard as the foreign trade controversy gets under way.

The Story of the Week

NOTICE

Because of the Thanksgiving holiday, *The American Observer* will not be published on November 23. The next date of publication will be November 30. In view of the fact that it will be two weeks before our next paper appears, we shall not follow our usual practice in the current issue of announcing articles to come.

Terms in the News

News dispatches from the Near East frequently contain the following terms:

Moslem. Another name for the Mohammedan religion which is followed by most people in Arab countries as well as by persons in some other lands. *Islam* is still another name for this religion and its followers.

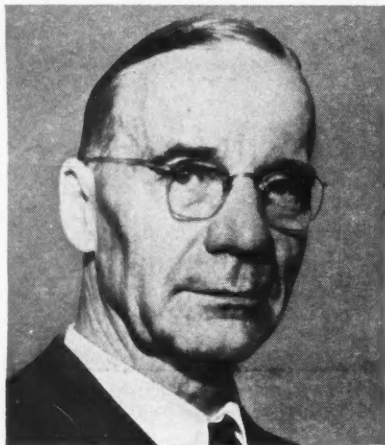
Arab League. An organization to which eight Arab lands belong: Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, and Libya. These countries have banded together to further Arab interests.

Jihad. A call for a Moslem war against outsiders. This cry struck terror into the hearts of people living in Mediterranean and nearby countries some seven or more centuries ago. At that time, Mohammedans took their fight against "unbelievers" across North Africa and to parts of Europe and Asia. Some Arab leaders are again calling for a "holy war" or *jihad* against the Jews.

Zionism. A movement among Jews to encourage their members to settle in Israel. Some Zionists look upon Israel as a religious and national home for all people of the Jewish faith, others feel that the land should be kept as a place of refuge for oppressed Jews.

Capitol Hill Politics

Both the Republicans and the Democrats are getting ready for the 1954 session of Congress. GOP Senate majority leader William Knowland of



UN INVESTIGATOR of Israeli-Arab disorders, Major General Vagn Bennike

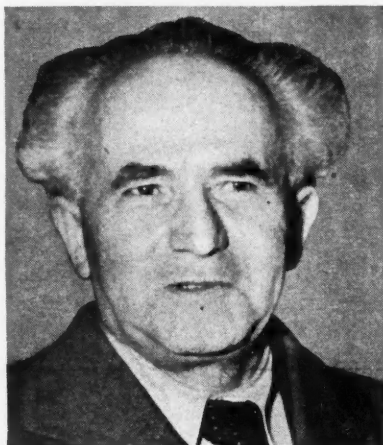
California has asked leading Republican lawmakers to meet on Capitol Hill later this month or early in December to discuss next year's legislative program. Senator Knowland wants members of his party to go over these and other pressing issues now before the nation:

1. Farm problem. Farm incomes have been declining for about two years now. The legislators will study farm programs being worked out by Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson and other members of the Eisenhower administration.

2. Defense. Ever since news of Russian experiments with hydrogen weapons became known last August, some legislators have been calling for a stepped-up defense program. GOP congressmen are expected to draft a new preparedness program for congressional action next year.

3. Taxes. Republican lawmakers may decide what new taxes, if any, they will ask Congress to put into effect next year.

Meanwhile, the Democrats are also planning to go over next year's legislative program. Opposition party leaders hope to reach an agreement on how their members should vote on major issues that are likely to come up, and what new legislative proposals they should offer. Senate minority leader Lyndon Johnson and



ISRAEL'S PREMIER Ben-Gurion has announced his resignation

House Democratic leader Sam Rayburn, both of Texas, are taking the lead in getting Democratic lawmakers to hold a pre-session get-together to map out their plans.

Election Discussions

Officials of both major parties are still going over the results of scattered elections held earlier this month. They are looking for possible clues that may indicate how the 1954 congressional elections will turn out.

Democrats, who scored a number of victories in the balloting, say the elections show that the GOP is losing popular support. Republicans, though alarmed over their setbacks, don't agree with that view. They say that (1) off-year elections, as a rule, go against the party in power; and (2) local issues, rather than party policies, were the decisive factors in the outcome of most contests.

In the balloting, New Jersey's voters put a Democrat, lawyer Robert Meyner, in office as their state's governor. They elected another Democrat, Harrison Williams, Jr., who is also a lawyer, to fill a vacant seat in the U. S. House of Representatives—a seat that had been held by Republicans since 1931.

The Democratic victory in New Jersey brings that party's strength in the lower House of Congress up to 215, as against 218 GOP members. There is one Independent Representative and one seat—that of a California district—is still undecided at our press time.

In other election contests, New York City elected a Democrat, Robert Wagner, Jr., as mayor. Virginia, which has had a Democratic chief executive for many years, elected Democrat Thomas Stanley as its governor, although the race here was very close.

Sudan at the Polls

Voters of the Sudan, the big African country south of Egypt, are now going to the polls to choose members of their new parliament. Balloting is scheduled to end early next month.

When the Sudan's new legislative body takes over, shortly after the elections, it will be the first time since 1899 that the land has had its own government. At that time, the Sudanese were brought under joint British-Egyptian rule. Earlier this year, after long and bitter quarrels over control of the Sudan, Britain and



JORDAN'S KING HUSSEIN, Arab leader in the quarrel with Israel

Egypt decided to let the area's people work out their own future.

For the next three years, the two nations will stand by to help the Sudan with its governing problems. Then Sudanese voters will have to decide on one of three paths to take: (1) Union with their northern neighbor, Egypt; (2) membership in the Commonwealth of Nations to which Britain belongs; or (3) complete independence.

Egypt hopes the Sudanese will eventually join forces with her. The Sudan, which extends into Central Africa, controls the headwaters of the life-giving Nile River. Without the Nile, many Egyptian farms would turn into dry desert lands and could not support people now living there.

Britain hopes for close relations with the Sudan because the big African land borders on colonies which England is now developing. Sudanese-British cooperation would make it possible for Britain to go ahead with large-scale hydroelectric dams and other projects that she has mapped out for the region.

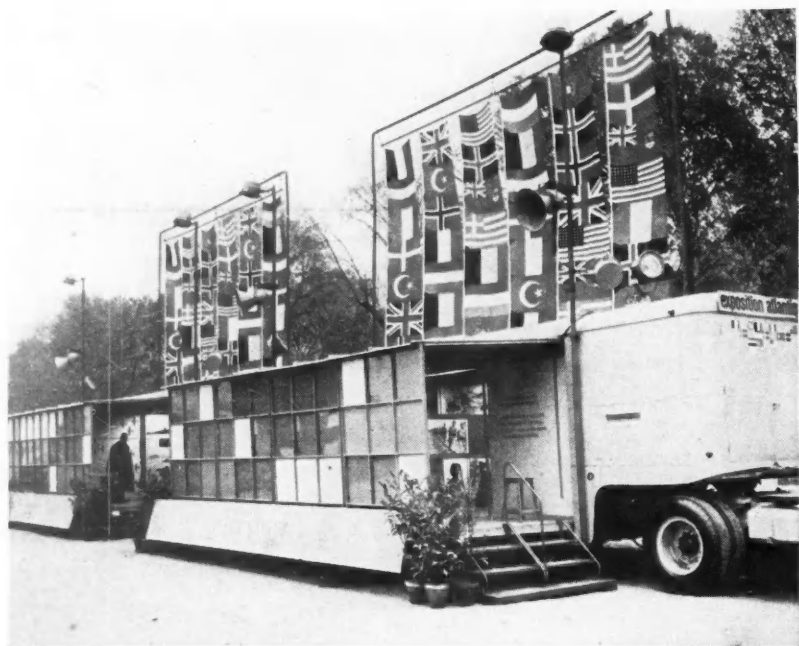
The Sudan, though its area is about a third as large as that of our 48 states, has only some 8½ million inhabitants. They include a mixture of peoples, largely Negroes and Arabs. Few of them can read or write. Farming and livestock raising are their chief occupations.

Near East Newsmakers

Three leaders who are playing prominent roles in the Israeli-Arab dispute (see page 1 story) are Denmark's Major General Vagn Bennike, Israel's Premier David Ben-Gurion, and Jordan's King Hussein.

General Bennike, as the United Nations truce supervisor in the Near (or Middle) East, has the tough task of trying to keep the uneasy peace between Arabs and Jews. Late in October and earlier this month, he reported his observations of the Israeli-Arab conflict to the UN.

Born 66 years ago in Denmark, Bennike has been a professional soldier in his country's armed forces since his 22nd birthday. When the Germans overran Denmark in World War II, he joined underground resistance forces. An engineer, he became an expert at blowing up German munitions and troop supply lines. Last June, Bennike took another dangerous post—that of UN truce supervisor in the Near East. His headquarters are



NATO ON TOUR. The trucks carry an exhibit of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, to which we belong. The traveling show, pictured here in Paris, will visit the NATO countries to give citizens an idea of how the military organization works.

located in embattled, divided Jerusalem.

Premier Ben-Gurion has led the Israelis in the conflict between Israel and the Arabs. Born 67 years ago in Poland, the Jewish leader spent most of his life trying to establish an independent homeland for his people. He continued his fight for a free Jewish state until Israel was set up in 1948. Throughout most of the time since then, Ben-Gurion has served as premier of his land. Now he has resigned and is waiting for someone to succeed him as one of the leaders of the young Jewish nation.

King Hussein of Jordan, though only 18 years old, is spokesman for his country in its quarrel with Israel. Recently he made his first public speech in which he presented Jordan's side in the conflict.

Young Hussein took over the throne last May, though he was first named monarch in August 1952. At that time his father stepped down from the throne because of illness. It was not until last May that the young king turned 18, at which time he finished his schooling in England.

Battle of Words

In the days to come, we are likely to hear a great deal more about the case of Harry Dexter White, a high-ranking financial official under former President Truman, who died under mysterious circumstances shortly after leaving public office.

A short time ago, Attorney General Herbert Brownell, Jr., accused the former Chief Executive of keeping White in a vital government post after the FBI had shown the official to be disloyal. Evidence revealed, according to Brownell, that White had sent secret U. S. information to the Russians.

Truman answered these charges by saying that he knew nothing about the FBI report mentioned by Brownell. The former Chief Executive declared that, as soon as he found out about White's disloyalty, the accused official was asked to resign.

Mr. Truman and other Democrats contend that the GOP leaders are desperately looking for an issue to cover up for the losses they suffered in scat-



TOO FAST to be heard. Marine pilots in Hawaii pay no attention as a jet plane roars overhead. The plane is moving so fast that it passes out of sight before the engine sound is heard.

tered elections held earlier this month. The Republicans reply that they intend to prove their charge before they are through. For one thing, they say that White was not dismissed but resigned of his own accord.

Reds in Latin America?

How strong a force is communism in our neighboring lands to the south? This question has been on the lips of many Americans since Britain accused certain local leaders of trying to set up a pro-Red regime in Guiana earlier this fall. Newsman Henry Lee, writing in the *Washington Star*, has this to say about the communist threat in Latin American countries:

Guatemala's Reds are strong and dangerous. The communists there control labor unions and they have a great deal to say about government policies.

Mexico has successfully whittled down communist strength within its borders. Mexico's chief weapon against the Reds is progress—improving the lot of its people.

Uruguay's communists also seem to be declining in number. Within the past few years Red membership in the



PEG-LEGGED DOG. Annamie Hunter of Fort Worth, Texas, adopted this pup and had his paralyzed leg amputated. An artificial limb was substituted, so that "Sandy" can romp happily.

land's legislative body has dropped from four to one.

Brazil, though it has outlawed the communist party, is still troubled by Reds. A revolutionary army of 18,000 rebels is said to be forming deep inside Brazilian jungles.

Bolivia's Reds, though troublesome, are not as great a threat to that country as some news reports seem to indicate. United States aid is helping Bolivia combat communism.

Chile, like Brazil, has outlawed the communist party. Nevertheless, the Reds still appear to be in control of the country's big labor unions.

Change of Heart

Three years ago, two Italian communists decided that they had had enough of life in democratic Italy. They fled from their homes one night and slipped across the Iron Curtain into Soviet-controlled Hungary. In Hungary, Red police arrested the pair. The Italians spoke highly of communism and asked to be treated as refugees from "capitalism." The Reds listened to the Italians' story, then put them to work in one of Hungary's many forced labor camps.

The Italian government, when it learned of the fate of its former subjects, tried to rescue the prisoners. For nearly three years, efforts were made to get the unfortunate wanderers out of the prison camp.

Finally, the two Italians were allowed to leave Red Hungary. Their first act, upon returning home, was to storm into the communist party headquarters in their village. "We want to resign our membership," they shouted in a chorus. They then walked out, slamming the door in the faces of astonished communist party leaders.

Elizabeth and Philip

People of Bermuda and those of other lands having ties with Britain are in a holiday mood. They are getting ready to welcome Britain's Queen Elizabeth II and her husband, Prince Philip. Next Monday, November 23, the royal pair will fly to Bermuda, a British possession. Then they will go on to New Zealand, Australia, and other member countries of the Com-

monwealth of Nations to which Britain belongs.

The Queen is completing a trip she started last year while still a Princess. She had been on it only a short time when she heard of the death of her father, King George VI. She ended the trip and flew back to Britain to take over her duties as Queen.

100 Billion Dollars

Did you know that the cost of running our federal, state, and local governments in 1952 totaled \$101½ billion, or about \$646 for every man, woman, and child in the nation? These figures were recently published by the U. S. Census Bureau—a government agency that keeps tabs on population changes and other vital statistics.

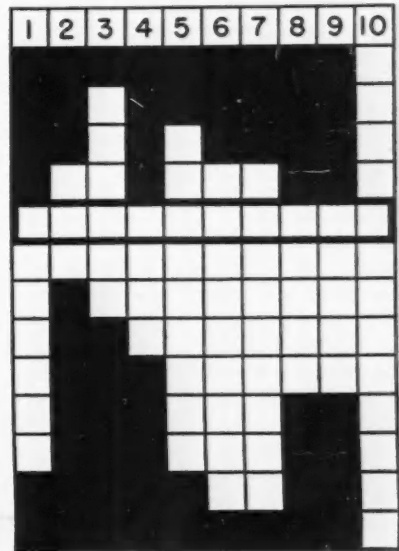
Pronunciations

- Bedouin—bēd'ōo-in
- Ben-Gurion—bēn gōōr'ī-on
- Caron de Beaumarchais—kā-rōn dūh bē'mār-shay'
- Hussein—hōō-sān'
- Israeli—is-ray'li
- Jihad—ji-hād'
- Kosciusko—kōs'ī-ūs'kō
- Louis St. Laurent—lwē sān-law-rān'
- Vagn Bennike—vān bēn'ī-kuh

MIDDLE EAST PUZZLE

Fill in the numbered vertical rows according to the descriptions given here. When all are correctly finished, heavy rectangle will enclose the name of an important geographical region.

- 1. Worshippers of Mohammed are _____
- 2. An important product of Arab countries.
- 3. Name of a famous river—and of a country.
- 4. The _____ Sea.
- 5. Old name for the region divided between Israel and Jordan.
- 6. A city revered by Christians, Jews, and Mohammedans.



- 7. A small Biblical town and famous birthplace.
- 8. Middle Eastern population is made up largely of _____.
- 9. Israel is having one dispute with _____.
- 10. Egypt, Israel, Syria front on the _____ Sea.

Last Week

ACROSS: Nationalist. VERTICAL: 1. Manila; 2. Bananas; 3. Tagalog; 4. Quirino; 5. Luzon; 6. Coconuts; 7. Magsaysay; 8. Romulo; 9. Liberal; 10. Sugar; 11. Graft.

THE LIGHTER SIDE

A British headwaiter once made the perfect retort to an irritating, snobbish customer.

"My position, sir, does not allow me to quarrel with you, but if we ever had a choice of weapons, I would choose grammar."



"I've got some definite word on that money I owe you. I can't pay it."

Said one farmer to another: "I have a rooster so lazy that every morning, when the rooster on the next farm crows, mine just listens and nods his head in approval."

Customer: "Can I put this wallpaper on myself?" Clerk: "Certainly, but it would look much better on the wall."

Bob: "Is your horse well behaved?" Sam: "He certainly is. He has such good manners that when we come to a fence, he stops and lets me go over first."

Mr. Penny (to butler): "Please announce Mr. and Mrs. Penny and son." Butler: "Three cents!"

Bob: "I tossed a coin to see whether I should rake leaves or go to the movies." Billy: "The movies won, I see." Bob: "Yes, but it wasn't easy. I had to toss 5 times."

"What's worse than a giraffe with a sore throat?" "A centipede with corns."



AMMAN, Jordan's capital, is one of the Middle East's fastest growing cities



TEL AVIV, an industrial center in Israel, is a new, modern city

Middle East

(Continued from page 1)

A second key to the Middle East's importance is the existence of vast supplies of oil in Iraq, Saudi Arabia, and some of the other Arab lands. All the great nations depend on oil in one form or another to power their motor vehicles, planes, tanks, and ships.

During the first half of this year, about 20 per cent of the world's oil production was in the Arab lands of the Middle East. Even more significant, half of the known petroleum reserves of the world are in this area. Possession of these supplies by Russia might upset the present balance of world power in favor of the communist nations.

So long as Israel and the neighboring Arab states are at swords' points, they cannot pay much attention to strengthening their defenses against the Soviet Union. Nor can they greatly strengthen their internal economies to build up sound democratic governments at home. Thus, it is plainly in the best interests of all non-communist lands that the Arabs and the Israelis resolve their differences.

Present troubles stem principally from the events of 1948 and 1949. In the first-named year, Britain, which had controlled Palestine on the shores of the eastern Mediterranean for many years, withdrew. When Britain did so, the Jews who had settled in Palestine in increasing numbers over the years set up the new independent state of Israel. They envisioned Israel as a home for many of the Jews who had undergone persecution in Nazi Germany and elsewhere. For the Jewish settlers, migration to Israel was looked on as a home-coming, since this land, in ancient times, had belonged to the Jews for some 1400 years.

The Arabs, who made up about 60 per cent of Palestine's population, opposed the move. They claimed the territory belonged to them, and were supported by Arabs in neighboring lands. Led by troops from Jordan and Egypt, the Arabs tried to destroy Israel.

The Jews, convinced that the land was rightfully theirs, fought back

and secured control of about 75 per cent of Palestine. Jordan won control of most of the remainder. Jerusalem, holy city of Christians and Jews and the site of several Moslem shrines, is on the boundary and is today divided between Jordan and Israel.

The United Nations finally arranged an armistice, but a final peace treaty has never been drawn up. The Arab lands refuse to recognize Israel. Israel refuses to make any concessions to the Arab nations. A number of issues have kept hostility at a high pitch.

A major issue concerns the Arab refugees who fled Israel during the 1948 fighting, carrying little more than the clothing on their backs. They now live in miserable camps just outside Israel's borders. About 500,000 Arab refugees are in Jordan, 200,000 in Egypt, 104,000 in Lebanon, and 84,000 in Syria. About 150,000 Arabs who remained in Israel during the fighting have been allowed to stay there.

The Arab refugees want to go back to their former homes, but they say they will not accept Israeli rule. Israel says she will not accept them

back anyway. The 700,000 Jewish immigrants who have arrived in Israel since the state was established have taken over the Arabs' homes and lands. Meanwhile, the Arab refugees, living in tents or mud huts along the borders, are supported for the most part by the United Nations with the United States footing about 70 per cent of the bill for their care.

Another issue that stirs up trouble has been the border raiding that has gone on ever since the truce went into effect. Bands of both Arabs and Israelis have crossed the borders to destroy property and kill people.

The Arabs say that most of their people who have raided in Israel are merely going back to their own property, and have sometimes used violence against those who stole their lands and homes. The Israelis say that they cannot sit back and permit Arabs to kill and murder but must retaliate as a warning that further raids will not be tolerated. Most of the raids have occurred along the 332-mile frontier of Jordan and Israel.

Still another troublesome issue concerns water rights along the River Jordan. This river flows close to the

border of Israel and Syria into the Sea of Galilee, then out of the Sea of Galilee into Jordan and the Dead Sea. (Both the Sea of Galilee and the Dead Sea are really lakes.)

Earlier this year Israel started constructing a canal on the upper reaches of the river as part of a power project. Syria protested that the canal would divert water from her farm land where it is badly needed to irrigate crops, and said the project violated the truce agreement of 1949. When Israel refused to stop work on the canal, the United States cut off funds with which we are aiding Israel. Our aid was immediately restored, however, when Israel changed her mind and agreed to stop work while the matter is being ironed out at the United Nations.

For both Israel and the Arab lands, the continuing hostility has had bad effects within their borders. For example, Israel is trying to increase her crop output. She has ambitious plans to irrigate desert areas and open them to cultivation. She wants to build more factories, too. Only in these ways can Israel's swollen population make a living.

Yet, because of the present bitterness, much of the money that Israel would like to spend in developing the nation's resources has to go to keep up a strong army. Moreover, Israel cannot get the raw materials she needs, or find a market for her factory products, in the Arab lands. They refuse to trade with her. Even though there is a pipeline from Iraq to the oil refinery at Haifa on Israel's coast, no oil flows through it today. Instead, Israel has to get oil from Venezuela thousands of miles away.

The internal problems of the Arab lands have also been made more difficult because of the hostility between Arabs and Israelis. For years most of the Arab countries were under the domination of Great Britain or France. Only in recent times have they thrown off foreign ties, and started self-government.

Today all the Arab countries face staggering problems in raising living standards. Although some of them possess great supplies of oil, this natural wealth has not yet raised living standards very much for the masses of the people. Poverty, disease, and lack of schooling are all big problems. Yet there is little likelihood that these



THE MIDDLE EAST, rich in oil, is one of the world's troubled areas

problems will be tackled effectively so long as the Arab governments are preoccupied with the Israel situation to the exclusion of almost everything else.

Can a compromise be worked out? That is the hope of the U. S. leaders, who have been trying in recent weeks to get the two sides to cooperate. The answers which our leaders have received, though, are not very encouraging.

The Arab leaders say: "We will not make any concessions whatsoever until the injustice that was done to some 900,000 of our people is righted. Israel refuses to take these people back or give them their property, yet she continues to accept immigrants from Europe and elsewhere. With her ever-increasing population and limited living space, she will eventually want to expand her borders farther into Arab lands. Under such conditions, how can we compromise?"

The Israeli leaders say: "We want to make the truce into a permanent peace, but the Arab nations refuse to do so. Instead, they are trying to strangle us through an economic boycott. The big, underpopulated Arab nations could easily absorb the refugees along their borders, but they plainly don't want to—they prefer to keep them living in temporary camps for political reasons. We have no idea of expanding, but the Arab states would attack us in a minute if they thought they could win."

Plans for Peace

A number of plans have been put forth to bring peace in the Middle East. One plan which has been presented to the United Nations by a group of American civic, educational, and religious leaders would ask the Arab nations to assign some underpopulated land for the resettlement of refugees, and would ask them to make a fair contribution to carry out the program. For her part, Israel would be asked to pay a fair sum for Arab property within her borders. Then the United Nations would contribute 800 million dollars for a six-year program to re-establish the refugees, and to develop resources throughout the Middle East.

A plan has also been drawn up for development of the Jordan Valley. Based on our own Tennessee Valley Authority, the plan would divide the waters of the Jordan River among Israel, Syria, and Jordan. About half of the water would be used to irrigate farms where some 200,000 Arab refugees might be settled.

If Israel and the Arab lands can be induced to work together in these programs, U. S. officials feel that we then might be able to set up a defense organization in the Middle East to protect that area against communist aggression. Such a defense group, to be effective, must include both Israel and at least some of the Arab lands.

Unless this kind of a cooperative arrangement can be worked out, we shall have to depend mostly on Turkey for a defense partnership against communism in that part of the world. Turkey is a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and has a strong army. It is too much to expect, though, that she could single-handedly stop a communist penetration into the Middle East. Therefore, it is imperative that we keep on trying to get the Arab states and Israel to settle their differences, no matter how discouraging the task may seem.



THE DAY'S WORK DONE, an Egyptian farmer leads his camel from the field

In The Middle East

Camels and Modern Automobiles, New Cities and Old Towns
Present Sharp Contrasts in the Ancient Region

THE story of the Middle East (see page 1 article) and its people is one of the oldest in the world. A part of the Biblical Garden of Eden, some scholars believe, was in what is now Iraq. The old city of Jerusalem, in existence for more than 3,000 years, is holy to Jews, Christians, and Moslems. Jesus was born in Bethlehem, now a part of Jordan. Mohammed, founder of the Moslem religion, was born in Mecca, now a city of Saudi Arabia.

The age of the Middle East is visible in the walled towns of most of the countries, in the many temples and shrines of the various religions, and in the robed dress of the Arabs. Along with the historic, the visitor also finds much that is modern—American automobiles, new apartment houses in cities, up-to-date factories, radios, and iceboxes. The contrast between the old and the new presents tourists with one of the most startling sights that may be found anywhere in the world.

In the Desert

In Saudi Arabia, you may drive into the hot, sandy desert and come upon a camp of Arabs. There is a semi-circle of black tents, made from goat hair. The Arab women, wearing dark robes, gather at the water hole located near the center of the camp to fill earthen jugs which they balance on their heads. Close to the tents are shepherds watching their camels and herds of sheep and goats.

If you are lucky, you may be invited into the tent of the Bedouin sheik, ruler of the tribe. You may sit on a carpet on the floor (there is no furniture) and eat lamb with rice in a wooden bowl, just as desert Arabs have done for thousands of years.

Visit a Saudi Arabian oil field and you will find a very different kind of Arab. You may step into a modern snack bar and see a young man wearing an American sport shirt and flannel trousers, and sipping a coke. Only a few years ago, he was a desert tribesman, wearing a flowing robe and hood, and tending sheep. He was trained as a mechanic by the oil company, and has begun to adopt many western customs.

Some of the smaller Arab towns

offer unusual sights. One in far eastern Arabia, for example, is sheltered from the desert sands by ancient mud walls. Within the town is a colorful market place, with some shops in the open air and others under arcades. The goods offered? In the center of this dreary desert town, hundreds of miles from civilization as we know it, you may buy an American alarm clock or a pair of tennis shoes—along with copper and pewter pots that the Arabs use for cooking.

Although oil fields are important in Arab countries and manufacturing is increasing in Israel, farming is the chief occupation of most of the Middle Eastern people. Egypt, which grows cotton, sugar, vegetables, and grains, offers a good example of how agriculture is carried on.

The Egyptian farmers are poor, as are most Middle Easterners, and usually live along the Nile River in small mud huts. The huts often are without windows. The Egyptians eat bread and vegetables, and little else. Irrigation is necessary in the fields. Often, the farmer laboriously has to draw water from the river with buckets and carry it to his land. Electric power pumps, for pushing water into irrigation ditches, have come into use in few places so far.

Israel's Progress

All the Middle East countries are carrying on some modernization programs, but Israel's effort is the most outstanding. The Israeli are building a new nation, and they want it to be a good one. They use jeeps and trucks for transportation, bulldozers for clearing the land, and the latest machinery in harvesting their crops. They are turning deserts into good farm land by irrigation. They are building modern cities and factories.

Education is at a high standard in Israel. Schooling elsewhere is not very general. Children of Arabs in the desert, for example, have almost no chance of getting a formal education. Some progress is being made, however, in part with American help. Lebanon has a fine university, with courses that include medicine, engineering, and business. In Lebanon and elsewhere some good elementary and high schools also have been built.

SPORTS

HOW much benefit does one derive from playing football? Is it really a worthwhile sport? Or is it likely to harm participants more than it helps them? These questions have come in for much debate recently.

Some, feeling that football's bad points outweigh the good ones, say:

"The main object in taking part in any sport is to have fun while receiving healthful exercise. However, the emphasis on winning at any cost has become so great in football that it puts undue pressure on the players and takes the enjoyment out of the game. For example, Bob Mathias, Olympic decathlon champion and a veteran of the Stanford eleven, quit football this year for that very reason.

"Football results in many serious injuries. Many a former football player suffers from a 'trick knee', or a bad back, or some other gridiron-incurred ailment that will bother him all his life. Are the benefits of football worth risking permanent injury?

"With its long practice sessions, the game demands too much of the players' time. Many players get behind in their studies during the football season and are in hot water the rest of the year. Moreover, football has little long-range recreational value. Unlike tennis or golf, it is not a sport which the average person will play after his high school or college days."

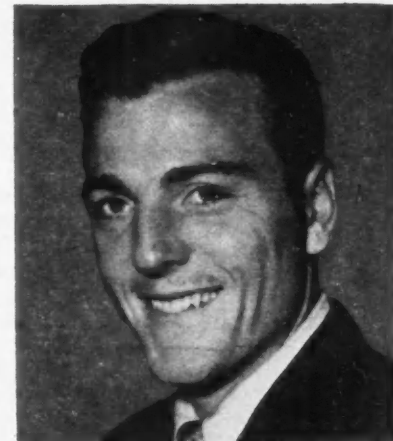
Others feel that football has outstanding value. They say:

"Football is a great outlet for excess energy, and those who play the game feel a real sense of satisfaction in making the team. Obviously most players like it, or they wouldn't be playing it. If they are in good shape, have good equipment, and have thoroughly learned the fundamentals of the game, they are not likely to get hurt but will benefit from the exercise.

"A rugged team sport like football teaches valuable lessons in cooperation and discipline and develops traits of leadership. Hundreds of men, outstanding in American life, have received superb training for adult life on the football field. Three who might be mentioned are President Eisenhower, General George Marshall, and Senator Estes Kefauver of Tennessee.

"Many football players actually do better scholastic work during the football season than at any other time. They know they must keep up in their studies to remain eligible, and they learn to ration their time wisely, which is good training for later life."

(We should like to hear from our readers on this issue.)



BOB MATHIAS, former football player

A Career for Tomorrow - - In Agriculture

If you like to work out-of-doors, and hope to be your own boss, you may want to consider farming as a career.

Your qualifications should include intelligence, foresight, and executive ability, for running a farm requires qualities similar to those needed for directing a city business enterprise.

Your training, if you enter this field, will depend to some extent upon your background. If you are a city dweller, you should consider farming as a vocation only if you have some good way of acquiring the necessary training and practical experience. You might attend an agricultural college. (There is one in each of the 48 states and in Alaska.) Also, you should get practical experience by actually working on a farm.

It is fairly easy for a farm boy to obtain the necessary practical experience. He probably can get along all right without attending agricultural college, though it would, of course, be helpful to him.

The specific things you must learn about farming depend on the kind of crops you intend to raise.

Your start in farming will be difficult unless you have considerable money. Most farmers today use a lot of machinery. If you decide to specialize in wheat, for instance, you probably will want a harvester-thresher, or combine. A medium-priced model of these machines costs about \$3,400. You will also need other expensive implements. In addition to farm equipment, you will need to rent or purchase land.

Here again, boys who live on the farm or who have farm connections enjoy a big advantage. They can, in many cases, work out partnership arrangements that will help them get on their feet.



YOUNG FARMER with rooster

Your income will depend to a large extent upon the weather—which, of course, you cannot control. A farmer's earnings also depend on how well he has chosen his farm, how large and well-equipped it is, how much he knows about farming, and how good a business manager he is. In other words, the income of a farmer, like that of a city businessman, depends upon many factors. Large numbers of

farmers are actually making a good living today, while some have a difficult time in making ends meet. Not as many farmers, comparatively speaking, get rich as do city business owners.

Advantages and disadvantages that farming offers depend chiefly on whether or not you are suited for the work. Farming is more than an occupation; it is a way of life. Some people could never endure it; others would accept nothing else. Before deciding to be a farmer, find out whether you have a genuine liking for this kind of life. Work on a farm during summer vacation.

The successful farmer is his own boss. During some periods, he must work extremely hard, and there are farm chores that must be done "rain or shine," but the farmer also has certain seasons of comparative leisure.

In early times, farm life often meant loneliness and isolation. But the automobile, radio, and—in many areas—television have changed conditions greatly.

Further information can be obtained from nearby county agents. They can tell you about problems connected with farming in your area. You can also get some free pamphlets on farming from the Division of Publications, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C. These include: "Getting Started in Farming," and "Planning the Farmstead."

Historical Backgrounds - - Foreign Aid

THE United States has been giving away billions of dollars to help friendly nations build up their economies and their defenses against communism. In the past, we received considerable foreign assistance, although not anything like as much as we have been giving. No other nation in history has ever been able to match our present aid programs; in fact, we have been able to afford such spending only fairly recently in our history.

It is true that we took over the Philippines and began to spend large sums in building them up in 1899. We had a hand also in helping certain Latin American nations, and investments in those nations and elsewhere were being made by U. S. businessmen by the early 1900's. In general, though, the U. S. was on the receiving end of aid and investment programs much of the time up to World War I.

Important help first came to us during the Revolutionary War for independence from England. Caron de Beaumarchais, a wealthy Frenchman who believed in democratic freedoms, sent us money and munitions secretly. Later he persuaded the French king, who wanted to weaken England, to assist us. Finally France entered the war on our side. Along with a mixture of gifts and loans from the French, we obtained loans from Spain and the Netherlands (Holland).

Volunteers, some seeking only adventure and others believing in our cause, joined the colonial Army. Best known among them was the Marquis de Lafayette, the gallant Frenchman who was a friend of George Washington. Another was Thaddeus Kos-

ciusko, a Polish army captain. He was chief engineer for construction of defenses at West Point, which later became the site of our Military Academy, and served as an adjutant to Washington. Friedrich Wilhelm von Steuben, a German officer who knew the arts of war, trained our troops.

As we grew in size after the Revolution, we undertook many projects that required large sums of money. One project was the Erie Canal, which was built in 1825 across New York State to connect Lake Erie with the Hudson River, and—through the river—with the Atlantic Ocean. British bankers lent money for the canal.

In later years, British investors put up many more millions for railways and other transportation projects. French, Dutch, and other Europeans also took a hand in financing U. S. enterprises, such as gold mines and

big cattle ranches in the west, and tall buildings in New York and elsewhere.

The Europeans sometimes lost money, but, on the whole, they did well. Many had to sell their holdings during World War II, when European nations were short of funds, but some still have investments here.

Our need for foreign capital was about over by 1900. By 1914, when World War I began, we were able to lend and give huge sums to England, France, and other nations that fought against Germany. Since 1914, we have held the position of chief financier for a large part of the world.

Loans or gifts by individuals and governments have been made for varied reasons throughout history. In most cases, individuals lend money in order to make a profit on the interest. Or they invest in a business, hoping that it will bring in a good income from the sale of goods. There are exceptions. Lafayette, for example, gave money to the American colonies solely because he believed in their fight for independence.

Governments, too, act for special reasons. The French government was trying to look after its own best interests when it helped us fight for independence. The French were afraid of England's great power at that time, and felt that England would be weakened by our victory. Similarly, one of the most important reasons we are helping other nations today is that we believe it to be in our best interests to do so. We want our friends to be strong, so that they can stand with us against the threatening power of communist Russia.



LAFAYETTE helped us fight England

Study Guide

Foreign Trade

1. During the 1930's, what change took place in our government's method of handling tariff regulations?
2. What action on U. S. foreign trade did Congress take last summer?
3. Describe the work of the group that is sometimes known as the "Randall commission."
4. In general, how have the Democrats and the Republicans differed on foreign trade policy?
5. How much goods did we send abroad, and how much did we get in return, from 1946 through 1952? By what principal means was the difference made up?
6. List the three possible future courses of action that we could follow with respect to world trade.
7. Give arguments used by the people who oppose large-scale purchases from abroad.
8. Present some arguments of those who advocate heavy imports.

Discussion

1. In your opinion, what kind of foreign trade policy should the United States follow? Explain your position.
2. Do you think this nation's imports are as essential to us as are its exports to the customers abroad? Why or why not?

Middle East

1. What area is included in the Middle East?
2. What countries are involved in the present dispute in that region?
3. Why is the Middle East regarded by the western nations as such an important area?
4. Describe the background of the present troubles.
5. What three issues are involved in today's disturbances in the Middle East?
6. Give the Arab viewpoint on the present differences.
7. How do the Israelis feel about the same issues?
8. Describe some of the plans that are being presented to bring peace to the Middle East.

Discussion

1. What do you believe would be a fair solution to the troublesome Arab refugee problem? Why?
2. What attitude do you think the United States should take regarding the Middle East disturbances? Do you think we should support one party to the dispute more than the other? Why, or why not? Explain.

Miscellaneous

1. Explain what the Arab League is and name its members.
2. Who are three leading personalities involved in the dispute between Israel and Jordan?
3. Tell something about the political issues that Congress will have to take up next year.
4. Do communists appear to be making any gains in Latin America?
5. Why is British Bermuda so excited just now?
6. In your opinion, do the recent elections of several state governors and other officials in various parts of the country suggest any definite political trend?
7. What is the significance of the coming election in the African Sudan?

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Answers to Your Vocabulary

1. (a) looking back; 2. (b) approval; 3. (a) disabled; 4. (d) feebleness; 5. (c) uncontrollably noisy; 6. (b) outcast; 7. (b) very greedy.